



# *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*

## NEWS RELEASE

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*Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations of all Atlantic coast fish species, or successful restoration  
well in progress by the year 2015*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 14, 2004

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger  
(202) 289-6400

### **States Approve Addendum XV and XVI for Public Comment** *Addenda Propose Changes to the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass FMP*

Ronkonkoma, NY – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission has approved Draft Addenda XV and XVI to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Plan for public review and comment. Atlantic coastal states from Massachusetts through North Carolina will hold hearings in late October/early November to gather input from their constituencies (see list of hearings below).

Draft Addendum XV proposes to establish an allocation program for the increase of approximately 1.3 million pounds in the 2005 commercial summer flounder fishery. The Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Board approved the increase in total allowable landings in August. This September, industry members met to identify options for inclusion in the Draft Addendum. Two industry members from each state, Massachusetts to North Carolina, participated in a workshop. The options in the Draft Addendum are intended to address 2005, or 2005 and 2006 fishing years only.

Draft Addendum XVI presents options to address the impacts of delayed implementation of fishery management measures for summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass. The Draft Addendum presents a suite of management options, including commercial and recreational measures, and notification periods for the Commission and the states. These options aim to discourage delayed state implementation by requiring the “pay back” of the benefits that a state gained as a result of late compliance with an interstate fishery management plan.

#### **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries**

*October 28, 2004; 7:00PM*

TBD

Contact: Melanie Griffin at 617-626-1530

#### **Connecticut Dept. of Environmental Protection**

*October 28, 2004; 7:00PM*

Marine Headquarters

333 Ferry Road

Old Lyme, Connecticut

Contact: Eric Smith at 860-434-6043

#### **Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*November 4, 2004; 6:00PM*

URI Narragansett Bay Campus

Corless Auditorium

South Ferry Road

Narragansett, Rhode Island

Contact: Najih Lazar at 401-423-1926

#### **New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation**

*November 3, 2004; 7:00PM*

205 North Belle Mead Road, Suite 1

East Setauket, New York

Contact: Byron Young at 631-444-0436

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

**New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*October 26, 2004; 6:30PM*

Nacote Creek Law Enforcement Office  
Route 9, Mile Post 51  
Port Republic, New Jersey  
Contact: Bruce Freeman at 609-633-2408

**CANCELLED: Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*October 21, 2004; 7:30 PM*

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and  
Environmental Control  
Richardson and Robbins Building Auditorium  
89 Kings Highway  
Dover, Delaware  
Contact: Rick Cole at 302-739-4782

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

*October 20, 2004; 7:00 PM*

Worcester County Library Ocean Pines Branch  
11107 Cathell Road  
Ocean Pines, Maryland  
Contact: Howard J. King, III at 410-260-8281

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission**

*October 27, 2004; 7:00 PM*

2600 Washington Ave, 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
Newport News, Virginia  
Contact: Jack Travelstead at 757-247-2247

**North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries**

*October 25, 2004; 7:00 - 9:00 PM*

C-MAST (Center for Marine Science and Technology)  
Room 206 – Agriculture Extension Service  
303 College Circle  
Morehead City, North Carolina

*October 27, 2004; 7:00 - 9:00 PM*

DENR Washington Regional Office  
Conference Room  
943 Washington Square Mall  
Washington, North Carolina

*October 28, 2004; 7:00 - 9:00 PM*

Roanoke Island Festival Park  
1 Festival Park  
Manteo, North Carolina  
Contact: Red Munden 252-726-7021

The Board will meet to review public comment and take final action on the Addenda on November 8, 2004 in New Hampshire. States will be responsible for the timely implementation of all approved addenda, consistent with the schedule developed by the Board.

The Board and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council voted to initiate the development of Amendment 14 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP. The Amendment will comprehensively address all aspects of the summer flounder fishery, including the issue of allocation between the commercial and recreational sectors. Since the latter issue will be thoroughly addressed during the development of Amendment 14, the Board and Council will recommend to the National Marine Fisheries Service that it deny United Boatmen's and Recreational Fishing Alliance's petition for a 50% share of the TALs of summer flounder for the recreational sector.

The Commission and Council jointly manage summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass, meeting annually to establish commercial quotas and recreational harvest limits. The Commission's actions regarding Addenda XV and XVI are taken exclusively under the states' management authority, while Amendment 14 has been initiated in concert with the Council.

Both Addenda can be obtained via the Commission's website at [www.asmfmc.org](http://www.asmfmc.org) under Breaking News or by contacting the Commission office at (202) 289-6400. Public comment will be accepted until November 4. Comments should be forwarded to Toni Kerns, Fisheries Management Plan Coordinator, 1444 Eye Street, NW, Sixth Floor, Washington, DC 20005; (202)289-6051 or [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org) (subject line: Addendum XV or Addendum XVI). For more information, please contact Toni Kerns at (202) 289-6400, ext. 330 or [tkerns@asmfc.org](mailto:tkerns@asmfc.org).